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Promotion and protection of all human rights, civil, political, economic, social and cultural rights, including the right to development

Written statement* submitted by the Family Health Association of Iran, a non-governmental organization in special consultative status

The Secretary-General has received the following written statement, which is circulated in accordance with Economic and Social Council resolution 1996/31.

[31 January 2018]

* This written statement is issued, unedited, in the language(s) received from the submitting non-governmental organization(s).

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Human Rights Violations against Yemeni Women and Children

The international community, through the ratification of international conventions, such as the Geneva and The Hague Conventions, has sought to establish a basic humanitarian principle at the time of the war. Although these conventions do not prevent war, but they do lower the extent of human suffering and pain endured by the warring parties while insisting on the human right of individuals to wellbeing and health.

Yemen is a country in the midst of a humanitarian catastrophe, a country that had suffered from political instability, lawlessness and tribalism, environmental crises and widespread poverty for many years.

As we are speaking, the people of Yemen have to procure their drinking water from unsafe and infested sources, contributing to the spread of cholera, which has reached epidemic proportions. There are around 200 thousand suspected cases of cholera which have caused 13 thousand deaths, one fourth of them being children, and the total death count can only be expected to rise further.

Around 70 percent of the Yemeni people are in dire need of humanitarian aid and assistance. Due to lack of access to health services, maternal, infant and child mortality is skyrocketing and malnutrition among women and children; especially pregnant women have become increasingly common.

The Family Health Association of Iran, the full member of the International Planned Parenthood Federation, expresses its total support for peace in Yemen hereby and calls on the international community and the UN Human Rights Council to pay special attention to establishment Peace and the observance of human rights and access to health and medical services for the Yemeni people and the elimination of all forms of violence, especially for women and children.